

**BOARD OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

Monday, October 16, 2023 – 11:30 am  
McGreer 100, Bishop's University, Sherbrooke, Quebec

**ATTENDANCE:**

Name	Position	P/R/A*	Attendance P/R/A
Sophia Stacey	President	P	3-0-0
Christine Lépine	VP, Academic Affairs	P	3-0-0
Olivia Woods	VP, Student Life	P	3-0-0
Brandon Leblanc	Director of Finance	P	3-0-0
Bryn Empey	Director of Events	P	3-0-0
Taylor Morgan	General Councilor	P	2-0-0
Sasha Kardos-Machado	General Councilor	P	2-0-0
Roser Rise	First Year Rep	P	2-0-0
Sarah Jewett	On-Campus Rep	P	2-0-0
Chloé Rouleau	Environmental Sustainability Rep	P	2-0-1
Irma Susset	Equity Rep	P	3-0-0
Irmah Alao	Ethnic Diversity Rep	P	2-0-0
Marie Constance Hountondji	Health & Wellness Rep	P	2-0-1
Drew Henkel	Indigenous Student Rep	P	3-0-0
Fiona Gaombalet	International Student Rep	P	2-0-0
Cleo Wulder	Business Senator	P	3-0-0
Martina Berkers	Education Senator	P	2-0-0
Elodie Lescure	Graduate Student Senator	P	2-1-0
Sonoma Brawley	Humanities Senator	P	2-1-0
Sienna Longo	Natural Sciences Senator	P	3-0-0
Chelsea Sheridan	Social Sciences Senator	P	3-0-0
Jordan Messier	Chair	P	2-0-0
Erin Mallory	General Manager	P	3-0-0
Karen Dymond	Secretary General	P	3-0-0

\*P=Present, R=sent their regrets, A=Absent

\*As per Specific Bylaw 13.10.ii, electronic participation is noted in the minutes.

**Observers / Guests:** Jenna Lemay, SRC Extra Manager; Loic Mercier, Mindfulness, Yoga & Meditation Club; Daniel (Joey) Forfellow, Co-lead/President, BU Pre-Law Society; Olivia Norby, Junior Co-Lead, BU Pre-Law Society; Guan Wang, Co-President, Chinese Student Association; Rosane Delome, Modern Languages Club; Laura Fernandez, Co-Lead, Bishop's Improv Troupe/BIT; Shannon Gaskarth, Co-lead, Bishop's Improv Troupe/BIT; Juliette Beaulieu, Jeux de Commerce Canada (JDCC)

## 1.0 Opening

### 1.1 Welcome & Confirmation of Quorum

Jordan called the meeting to order at 11:35 am and confirmed quorum with 18 voting members present.

### 1.2 Land Acknowledgement

Irma offered a Land Acknowledgement and a reflection on Call to Action 39.

### 1.3 Approval of the agenda

**MOTION:** Moved by Olivia, seconded by Christina, to move item 7.1 to immediately after 2.0. CARRIED (18-0-0).

**MOTION:** Moved by Brandon, seconded by Fiona, to move item 8.2 to immediately after 4.1 club motions. CARRIED (18-0-0).

**MOTION:** Moved by Olivia, seconded by Drew, to move 4.1 Club Motions to above 3.0.

**MOTION:** Moved by Christina, seconded by Elodie, to approve the agenda as amended. CARRIED (18-0-0).

### 1.4 Approval of previous minutes – September 24, 2023

**MOTION:** Moved by Sonoma, seconded by Chelsea, to approve the minutes of the meeting held September 24, 2023, as presented. CARRIED (18-0-0).

## 2.0 Filling vacancies on BSR

No vacancies.

## 3.0 Departmental Updates

Written reports were circulated in advance from all Executive Council members. In the interest of time, only Sophia provided a verbal update to address the Tuition Crisis. This report was provided at the end of the meeting.

3.1 President (Sophia) – Sophia addressed the recent announcement by the Quebec Government regarding the doubling of tuition for out-of-province students. There was a leak in La Presse on Thursday, October 12, and an announcement of the measures on the morning of Friday, October 13. It is a budgetary proposal, not a bill, doubling out-of-province student tuition before university fees at all universities in Quebec. Currently, out of province students pay \$9,000 and the increase will be \$17,000. This will disproportionately affect English universities. It is a tuition crisis with extreme impact for Bishop's, a regional small undergraduate university with a higher percentage of out-of-province students. She explained that the SRC is fully on same page as university and working closely together to develop a public relations plan, a petition, and an Open Letter to be sent next week to all major and local media. record, and Montreal Gazette. Board members were asked not to do media interview on behalf of the SRC. Anyone can speak as a student but cannot speak as a facet of SRC or Bishop's university. The message is that this is an infringement on the right to education and that this will have extreme impact on Bishop's in particular. She answered questions from the board and invited anyone who is interested in being involved in this issue to contact her.

3.2 Vice-President of Academic Affairs (Christina)

3.3 Vice-President of Student Life (Olivia)

3.4 Director of Finance (Brandon)

3.5 Director of Events (Bryn)

#### 4.0 Reports from Standing Committees / Recurring Items

##### 4.1 Club Motions (Olivia)

This item of business was addressed immediately after item 2.0. The following clubs presented themselves for ratification. SRC Extra Manager, Jenna Lemay, was present to answer questions.

##### 4.1.1 Mindfulness, Yoga & Meditation Club

Loic Mercier was in attendance to represent the Club. The group has been functioning for 2 years as people with a Minor of Mindfulness and Contemplative Practices have been interested in opportunities to explore activities such as yoga, forest bathing, mindfulness seminars. One of the founding members is a certified Yoga instructor, which she completed with funding from the BEST program. The group plans to meet approximately 1x week, with field trips approximately 1x month. The group is open to all BU students. Each session closes with a sharing session. Two founding members are Peer Supporters with BUnited and so appropriate referrals could be made for students who may be triggered or need support. No sponsors have been approached. Recently the club started an Instagram account. No membership fee, but hypothetically there may be costs for field trips that members would split cost on.

**MOTION:** Moved by Olivia, seconded by Irmah, to ratify the Mindfulness, Yoga & Meditation Club as an SRC Extracurricular Group. CARRIED (18-0-0).

##### 4.1.2 BU Pre-Law Society

Daniel (Joey) Forfellow, Senior Co-Lead and Jr Co-Lead Olivia Norby were in attendance to represent the Society. The group has the support of Dr Bruce Gilbert, Dean of Pre-Law program. They have formed a study group for students in pre-law minor and to study for the L-STAT together. They will host events where members can meet people in legal profession. Membership is open to students who are in the Pre-Law minor, Pre-Law certificate, or who are interest in considering the program. One unofficial meeting has been held, with 30 members, 20 of which are not currently in either program. Eventually the Society would like to host mock trials and MOOTS to provide practical experience in the field.

**MOTION:** Moved by Olivia, seconded by Taylor, to ratify the BU Pre-Law Society as an SRC Extracurricular Group. CARRIED (17-0-1).

##### 4.1.3 Chinese Student Association

Guan Wang, Co-president of Chinese Student Association, was present to represent the Association. The association has functioned for years but would like to join the SRC as an SRC Extra Group. They are connected to Quebec and Montreal based Chinese societies, the Chinese Embassy, and other groups external to Bishop's. They would like to become an SRC Extra group to increase collaboration and connection with the SRC and Bishop's. There are 20 – 30 Chinese students on campus, lower numbers due to COVID. Their purpose is to help Chinese students to learn more about the culture of Canada, Quebec, and Bishop's, and to support students through connection, activities, and trips. They also want to be an SRC Extra group to connect with the wider student

body and invite participation from any students who wish to learn more about Chinese culture.

**MOTION:** Moved by Olivia, seconded by Sasha, to ratify the Chinese Students Association as an SRC Extracurricular Group. CARRIED (18-0-0).

Sophia entered the meeting.

#### 4.1.4 Modern Languages Club

Rosane Delome was in attendance to represent the Club, a member of the Modern Language student. The club provides opportunities to learn about other languages and cultures, watch movies in different languages, provides resources for students in modern languages classes, more opportunities to practice in other languages outside the classroom. It is open to all students on campus who are interested in practicing other languages and learn about other cultures. It is a social club instead of an academic club as it has more of an informal nature instead of being associated with the department. Most of current membership is in Hispanic studies, but they hope to recruit members across the other Modern Language programs.

**MOTION:** Moved by Olivia, seconded by Sonoma, to ratify the Modern Languages Club as an SRC Extracurricular Group. CARRIED (19-0-0).

#### 4.1.5 Bishop's Improv Troupe

Laura Fernandez and Shannon Gaskarth were in attendance to represent the Bishop's Improv Troupe, also known as BIT. The group formed last year and has already performed in front of Drama department. They hope to participate in festivals and events on campus. The club is open to everyone with an interest in improv, exploring their body, creativity, play, and fun. Open to all, with support to new learners as well as those with experience. They will consider offering a workshop for new players. They meet in the Pink Room in Turner Studio. The BSR offered the use of the Oasis and The Gait.

**MOTION:** Moved by Olivia, seconded by Sarah, to ratify the Bishop's Improv Troupe as an SRC Extracurricular Group. CARRIED (19-0-0).

4.2 Gaiter Grants Committee (Brandon) - In the interest of time, no report was provided.

#### 4.3 Appointments Committee (Sophia)

##### 4.3.1 Ratification of committee appointments

This item was postponed to the next meeting.

4.4 Green Levy Committee (Chloé) - In the interest of time, no report was provided.

4.5 Residence Student Life Committee (Olivia) - In the interest of time, no report was provided.

4.6 Mental Health Committee (Marie Constance) - In the interest of time, no report was provided.

4.7 EDI Committee (Irma/Irmah) - In the interest of time, no report was provided.

## 5.0 Reports from Ad-Hoc Committees

In the interest of time, all reports were postponed until the next meeting.

### 5.1 Finance Committee (Brandon)

- 5.2 Gait Renovation Consultation Committee (Brandon)
- 5.3 Menstrual Equity Committee (Olivia)
- 5.4 SafeDrive Committee (Sophia)
- 5.5 Sexual Culture Committee (Olivia)
- 5.6 Proposal to Strike Environmental Policy Committee (Olivia)

**6.0 Question Period**

No questions asked.

**7.0 Unfinished Business**

**7.1 Adoption of Updated SRC Extracurricular Groups Manual (Olivia)**

Olivia explained updates to the SRC Extracurricular Groups Manual and explained the change to create a New Group Status. This means that new groups are not on “probation” and therefore cannot access any of the benefits of being an SRC Extra Group. This status provides access to a small amount of funding to kick-start their group, access to some of the other benefits of being an SRC Extra Group, and the stipulation that groups cannot develop merch during this time. New Groups will return to the BSR after 4 months. This will be followed by formal changes to the SRC Extracurricular Groups Policy as proposed under item 8.1.

**MOTION:** Moved by Olivia, seconded by Sonoma, to approve the SRC Extracurricular Groups Manual as presented. CARRIED (18-0-0).

**8.0 New Business**

**8.1 New Group Status – proposed addition to Operating Policy Section 3: Extracurricular Groups**

In the interest of time, this item was postponed to the next meeting.

**8.2 Funding Request from Jeux de Commerce Canada (JDCC)**

This item was addressed immediately after item 4.1, as a representative was present.

Juliette Beaulieu presented the JDCC proposal to the BSR for 20 students to attend the competition in Kingston. The trip will be from Jan 19 to Jan 22, 2023, with the competition taking place over the weekend. Their total budget is \$14, 500. Students pay \$200.

Last year, the SRC funded \$1500 for travel to Ottawa by vehicles. This year they propose taking a minibus to build team spirit and a stronger link between team members, and because it is an hour further to travel. This year they are requesting \$2000 - \$1250 for transportation (mini bus is \$125/hr) and \$750 for extra costs, such as if the Chauffer needs to stay in hotel or for food costs.

BSR members asked several questions regarding the budget, as the budget proposes approximately \$850 of unclear funds. The JDCC was asked to return at the next meeting with further information. Brandon offered support with the development of their budget.

**MOTION:** Moved by Olivia, seconded by Roser, to postpone this item until the next BSR meeting, once the group can firm up the budget. CARRIED (18-0-0).

At this time, Sophia presented the update detailed under item 3.1.

**9.0 Any other business / Announcements / Toot Your Own Horn**

None shared.

10.0 **Date of Next Meeting** – October 30 – 11:30 am – 1:00 pm, McGreer 100

11.0 **Adjournment**

**MOTION:** Moved by Sophia, seconded by Chelsea, to adjourn the meeting. CARRIED (19-0-0).

The meeting was adjourned at 12:53 pm.